

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 11, 14, and 16 are currently amended. Claims 2, 5, 9-10, and 15 are canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments contained herein are fully supported by the Specification as originally filed and do not contain new matter.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Majors (U.S. Patent No. 5,581,475). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites that only lines having a width requirement greater than a default minimum line width are assigned a width marker. There is no indication of this in Majors. The Examiner has taken the minimum device geometry values Wmins (Figure 5) as corresponding to the width markers of claim 1. However, there is no indication in Majors that the minimum device geometry values Wmins are restricted to only lines having a width requirement greater than a default minimum line width. Therefore, Majors does not recite each and every element of claim 1, so claim 1 should be allowed.

Claim 2 is canceled, mooted the rejection thereof.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and is thus allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Therefore, claim 3 should be allowed.

Claim 4, as currently amended, recites: "a line width marker only for each line having a width greater than a default minimum width." The Examiner has taken the minimum device geometry values Wmins (Figure 5) as corresponding to the line width markers of claim 4. However, there is no indication in Majors that the minimum device geometry values Wmins are restricted only to lines having a width greater than a default minimum width. Therefore, Majors does not recite each and every element of claim 4, so claim 1 should be allowed.

Claim 5 is canceled, mooted the rejection thereof.

Claims 6-8 depend from claim 4 and are thus allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 4. Therefore, claims 6-8 should be allowed.

Claims 9-10 are canceled, mooted the rejection thereof.

Claim 11, as currently amended, recites that only lines having a width greater than an absolute minimum width have line width markers. As indicated above in conjunction with claim

For claim 4, there is no indication in Majors that only lines having a width greater than an absolute minimum width have line width markers. Therefore, Majors does not recite each and every element of claim 11, so claim 11 should be allowed.

Claims 12-13 depend from claim 11 and are thus allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 11. Therefore, claims 12-13 should be allowed.

Claim 14, as currently amended, recites that only schematic lines corresponding to circuit lines having a width requirement greater than a default minimum line width are assigned a width marker. There is no indication of this in Majors. Therefore, Majors does not recite each and every element of claim 14, so claim 14 should be allowed.

Claim 15 is canceled, mooted the rejection thereof.

Claim 16, as currently amended, recites: “a line width marker only for each schematic line corresponding a circuit line having a width greater than a default minimum width.” There is no indication of this in Majors. Therefore, Majors does not recite each and every element of claim 16, so claim 16 should be allowed.

Claims 17-18 depend from claim 16 and are thus allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 16. Therefore, claims 17-18 should be allowed.

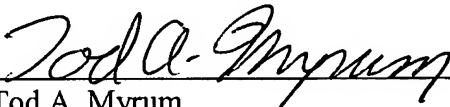
CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any further fees deemed necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501373.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 312-2208.

Respectfully submitted,

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